

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 598

To establish a commission to study the establishment of a national education museum and archive for the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2003

Mr. OWENS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish a commission to study the establishment of a national education museum and archive for the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) The United States has developed a unique
6 and powerful system of education that is admired
7 throughout the world.

8 (2) The American education system has devel-
9 oped into an increasingly complex and rich mixture

1 of public and private education since the founding of
2 this Nation.

3 (3) There is no central location or agency re-
4 sponsible for the identification and preservation of
5 American education's history.

6 (4) There is a need for a national place of
7 study and research on American education and
8 schooling in all its dimensions.

9 (5) There is a need to study the development of
10 a national historical and archival repository for
11 American education.

12 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a national
14 commission to study the development of a national edu-
15 cation museum and archive for the United States.

16 **SEC. 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

17 (a) APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION.—The Secretary
18 of Education shall appoint a national commission includ-
19 ing representatives from both the public and private sec-
20 tors to study the development, creation, and operation of
21 a national education museum and archive (in this Act re-
22 ferred to as the “Commission”).

23 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission, not to exceed
24 15 members, shall be broadly representative of the spec-

1 trum of American education and shall include educators,
2 archivists, museum professionals, and policy makers.

3 (c) DURATION OF COMMISSION; REPORTS.—

4 (1) DURATION OF COMMISSION.—The Commis-
5 sion shall exist for a period not to exceed 2 years.

6 (2) REPORTS.—The Commission shall submit
7 regular interim reports and a final report to the Sec-
8 retary of Education and the Congress not later than
9 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

10 (d) DUTIES OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall
11 undertake at least the following actions:

12 (1) Generally defining the requirements for de-
13 veloping, creating, and operating a national edu-
14 cation museum and archive.

15 (2) Elaborating on, and assessing, the existing
16 conditions affecting such requirements.

17 (3) Undertaking detailed project structure de-
18 velopment and planning.

19 (4) Undertaking detailed museum and archive
20 planning.

21 (5) Making detailed recommendations for the
22 creation and operation of a national education mu-
23 seum and archive.

24 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

25 As used in this Act:

1 (1) ARCHIVE.—The term “archive” means an
2 organization, that identifies, collects, describes, ar-
3 ranges, and makes accessible primary source mate-
4 rial relevant to its mission.

5 (2) EDUCATION.—The term “education” means
6 all aspects of American pedagogy, including public
7 and private institutions, all levels of schooling, and
8 all specializations, including special education and
9 vocational education.

10 (3) MUSEUM.—The term “museum” means an
11 organization that identifies, collects, describes, ar-
12 ranges, and interprets artifacts relevant to its mis-
13 sion.

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